AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A surface coated phosphor comprising an uncoated phosphor and a layer of continuous uniform coating comprising a crystalline rare earth oxide disposed on the uncoated phosphor having a thickness ranging from 1 nm to about 1000 nm, for a display device.

2. (Original) The surface coated phosphor of claim 1, wherein said uncoated phosphor is a sulfide or oxide phosphor.

3. (Original) The surface coated phosphor of claim 2, wherein said uncoated phosphor is a sulfide phosphor.

4. (Original) The surface coated phosphor of claim 3, wherein said sulfide phosphor is a ZnS based phosphor.

5. (Original) The surface coated phosphor of claim 4, wherein said ZnS based phosphor is selected from the group consisting of ZnS:Cu; ZnS:Cu,A1; (Zn,Cd)S:Ag,A1; and combinations thereof.

6. (Original) The surface coated phosphor of claim 5, wherein said ZnS based phosphor is ZnS:Cu.

7. (Original) The surface coated phosphor of claim 1, wherein said rare earth oxide is Y_2O_3.

8-36. (Canceled).

37. (Previously Presented) The surface coated phosphor of claim 1, wherein the continuous uniform coating has a thickness of from 1 nm to about 50 nm.

38. (New) A surface coated phosphor consisting of an uncoated phosphor and a layer of continuous uniform coating comprising a crystalline rare earth oxide disposed on the uncoated phosphor having a thickness ranging from 1 nm to about 1000 nm, for a display device.

39. (New) A surface coated phosphor comprising of an uncoated phosphor and a layer of continuous uniform coating comprising crystalline Y_2O_3 disposed on the uncoated phosphor having a thickness ranging from 1 nm to about 1000 nm, for a display device.